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Volume 15, No. 15

Mark GILMAN

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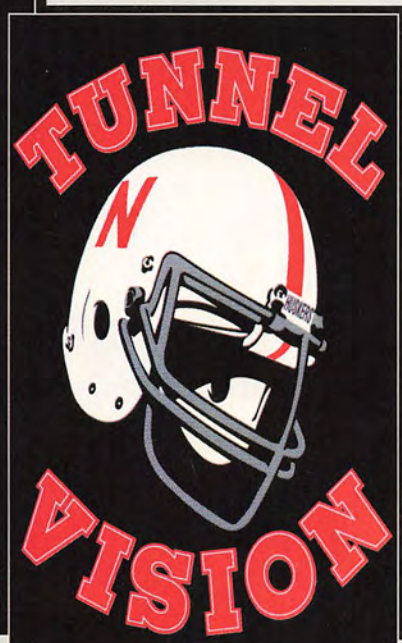
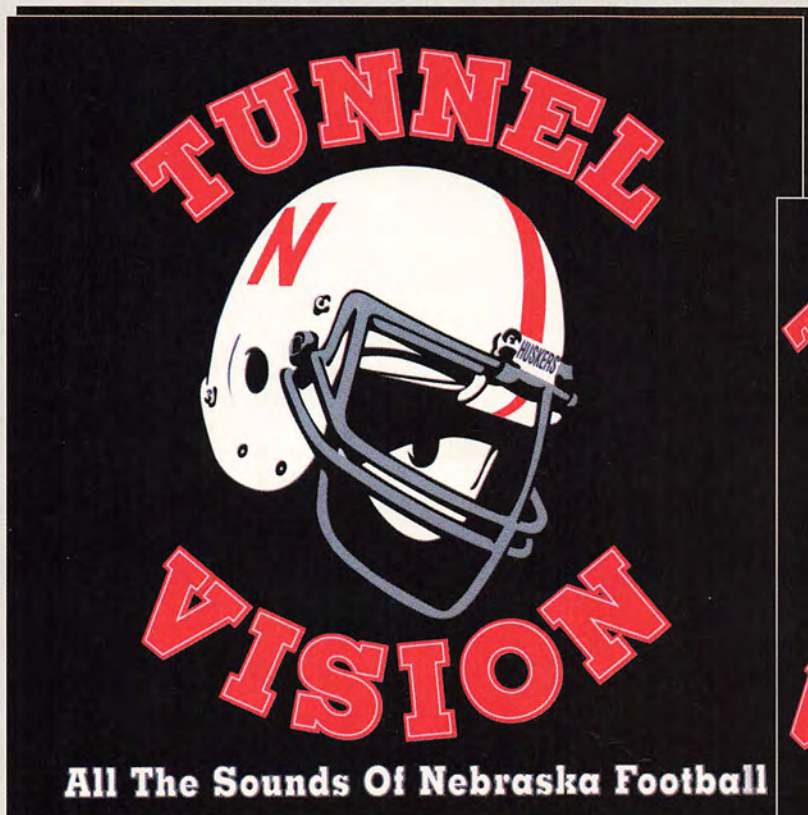


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C O N T E N T S

November 4, 1995 • Volume 15, No. 15

FEATURES

Silent Killer 18

Quiet off the field, Ken Clark made plenty of noise on it, battling injuries to become the school's No. 3 all-time rusher.

The Loss 22

Nebraska has never forgotten a 19-10 defeat in 1992, which proved to be Iowa State's season.



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LETTERS

I'm angry. First of all, Ed Stewart didn't get drafted. He signed a free agent contract with the Carolina Panthers. Of all the players I talked to at mini-camp, Ed was the best. I think he was a little surprised to see Nebraska fans down here.

But why am I angry? He was cut from the team. It was a consolation though, or so I thought, when the Panthers signed Travis Hill. But then on Oct. 4, they cut Hill. Then they signed running back Nate Turner. At least they're keeping it all in the family.

And why are the Oakland Raiders favoring Harvey Williams, who has one of the lowest yards per carry in the AFC, over Calvin Jones? Jones led the Raiders in rushing yards, yards per carry and rushing touch-

downs in the preseason. I'm angry again.

Rusty Starnes
Charlotte, N.C.

I'm a lifelong Husker fan and also a high school football coach here in Bradenton, Fla. We have produced six state champions in the last 12 years and nationally ranked teams the last three. We've provided the Huskers with several outstanding players, including Tommie Frazier, Tyrone Williams, Leslie Dennis and Shevin Wiggins. I encourage our players to include the Huskers in their recruiting plans. There are many more good players here at this time.

I've got a pretty good collection of Nebraska video tapes over the years, and I'd like to update it with some of the 1995 games that we were unable to get here in Florida. I'd appreciate any help collecting these 1995 games and Tom Osborne shows.

I promise to continue to help recruit for the Huskers.

Coach Howard Eberly
102 Wildpalm Dr.
Bradenton, Fla. 34210
(941) 756-2735

Read your story on Mike Rozier (Oct. 21, 1995) helped remind me why I think he was the best collegiate running back of all time. Think about what he was able to do in 1983 alone; he rushed for 2,148 yards. Sure, players such as Barry Sanders have since shattered that record (Sanders had 2,628 yards in 1988), but for his time no one could touch Rozier.

I think he made the most of what defenses gave him and defied the odds on a regular basis. If Nebraska had won that Orange Bowl in 1983, I think many other people would feel the same way. As you know, people don't always remember those who don't finish on top.

Kerin McDonald
Athens, Ohio

Here's a bold statement: Ahman Green will win the Heisman Trophy in two years. If you're reading this, Ahman, then stop right now because I don't want to put any undo pressure on you.

I have been lucky enough to see Ahman run twice this year. Each time (Washington State and Missouri) he has been electric. Next year when he gets the majority of the snaps and the line has another year under its belt, he will take the first true steps to greatness.

Frank Castoletti
Lincoln

Our basketball team could be the conference sleeper of the year. I think many people have written us off as a .500 squad. Just wait until the season gets going.

With the amount of talent that Danny Nee has back, I think we can actually challenge Kansas for conference honors. The Jayhawks are going to be good, but I don't know if they have our kind of depth.

I was on hand for the Midnight Madness on Oct. 13, and was very impressed by what I saw. Tryonn Lue is going to be a great asset to the team. With him handling the ball, Jaron Boone should be freed up to score at will from the outside.

Sign Nee for another 10 years, because he is one of our best finds.

Sherman Simpson
Durham, N.C.

...

Please send your comments and questions to **Letters**, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, Neb. 68501. We reserve the right to edit the letters for clarity, content and length.

1: For which college did Bob Devaney play football?

2: Tom Osborne's Nebraska teams have been tied three times. By whom were they tied?

3: What is the fewest number of regular-season games Nebraska has won under Osborne, and how many times has this happened?

4: Who played in the first Kickoff Classic in 1983?

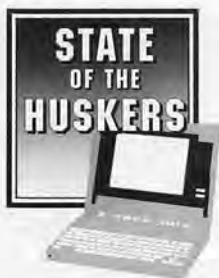
5: In 1982 Nebraska almost suffered a tremendous upset at Hawaii. Which important player was unable to play in the first half and why?

Husker Trivia

Answers to last week's questions (Oct. 28 issue)

1: Nebraska went through four head coaches during the five year period of 1942-46: Glenn Presnell, 1942; A.J. Lewandowski, 1943-44; Potsy Clark, 1945; Bernie Clark, 1946-47. 2: Fred Duda tossed a pass to his old reliable end Freeman White, who streaked 95 yards for a score against Colorado in 1965. 3: Calvin Jones broke Mike Rozier's single-game rushing record with 294 yards against Kansas in 1991. 4: Jim McFarland set single-game record for most pass receptions by a tight end with seven. 5: Tyrone Hughes had a truly remarkable day against Kansas State. He set a record for most return yards in a game with 247 on eight punt and kickoff returns.

One request we always get is for a Nebraska trivia section to be added to **Huskers Illustrated**. Well, the wait is over. Starting with this issue, each week we'll provide five questions from Lowell Greunke's trivia book "Husker Trivia." You'll have a week to mull over the answer before we print the answers. If you'd like a copy of "Husker Trivia," send a check for \$13.95 to: Husker Trivia, P.O. Box 44142, Omaha, NE, 68144



Forward Thinking

Preseason publications echo Danny Nee's thoughts that Nebraska finally has the manpower to compete with the nation's best teams

By MIKE BABCOCK

Poet Robert Burns wrote that it would be nice if we had the ability to see ourselves as others see us. Coach Danny Nee's 10th Nebraska basketball team is being provided with that opportunity as college basketball yearbooks begin arriving on the newsstands.

The Cornhuskers should like what they see. Despite last season's disappointing 18-14 record, which included a second-round National Invitation Tournament loss against Penn State at the Devaney Sports Center, Nebraska is being accorded considerable national respect going into 1995-96.

The *ESPN College Basketball* annual writes: "With their experience and depth, the Huskers are a lock for the NCAA Tournament. With great guard play from (Tyronn) Lue, the Sweet 16 is not out of the question." Lue is a freshman from Raytown, Mo. More about him later. *ESPN* has Nebraska at No. 36 in its preseason rankings.

Athlon Sports College Basketball predicts Nebraska will finish third in the Big Eight, behind Kansas and Missouri, and advance to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. Jaron Boone and Erick Strickland, who is on the magazine's regionalized cover, are included on *Athlon's* All-Big Eight first team.

Street and Smith's College/Prep Basketball includes Nebraska among its "sleepers," and says Boone, a preseason All-Big Eight pick, "heads the conference's best senior class." The Cornhuskers also have one of the nation's 10 best backcourts, according to the magazine.

UMI's Big Eight Basketball Handbook echoes *Street and Smith's*: "One of the deepest and quickest backcourts in the country will only get better with the addition of pure point guard Tyronn Lue and the maturation of a number of key play-

ers," *UMI* says.

Such praise can create problems. For one thing, it places pressure on Lue, who, by all accounts, has exceptional ability. Even so, the adjustment from high school to college is considerable. It would be unfair to expect too much of Lue immediately. For another, players can get so wrapped up in what others say about them that they lose their focus and fail to perform to their potential. The same is true of teams.

Nebraska should have been better than 4-10 and seventh in the Big Eight Conference last season. It wasn't unreasonable to think the Cornhuskers would win their final three regular-season games, two of

two games in the NIT would have represented the former. Not so now. Nee has elevated Nebraska's program to the point that anything less than an NCAA Tournament bid will be dismissed as underachievement. Cornhusker fans have come to expect continued growth, not stagnation. Yet last season represented a step back, by Nee's own admission.

In fairness, however, Nee's resources were limited a year ago. Nebraska lacked size and depth. The arrival of Bernard Garner, in particular, should help to alleviate the former. Garner was the national junior college player of the year last season. And the Cornhuskers will have the full NCAA allotment of 13 scholarship players, plus Strickland, whose college education is being underwritten by baseball's Florida Marlins. Technically, the senior from Bellevue is a walkon.

For the first time, Nee will have Big Eight-quality players all along his bench as well as starters. There is a good mix of veterans and youngsters to establish some long-range consistency in the program. And they will be able to play the positions at which they not only are needed but also suited.

There won't be any more makeshift lineups. Gone are the days of using Boone at point guard, for example, when he's more comfortable at off guard. Lue and senior Tom Wald will ensure that.

Nebraska should win 20-plus games this season. The Cornhuskers should finish near the top of the Big Eight and return to the NCAA tournament after a year's absence. And they should finally win at least one game in the tournament.

They should again move forward. That's pretty much how others see them. *Dick Vitale's College Basketball* is a notable exception. It predicts a sixth-place Big Eight finish for the Cornhuskers.

Dickie V, how could you? ■



One publication picks Erick Strickland and Nebraska to make it to the Sweet 16.

which were at home, and at least be a long shot to earn a fifth consecutive NCAA tournament bid.

Three victories would have made them 7-7 in the conference. Instead, they lost all three, by a combined 10 points. Such can be the difference between what is considered success or regarded as failure.

Six years ago, an 18-14 record and



Weather Related

At mid-week before Nebraska football games, Jesse Kosch makes his game-day weather forecast. He hasn't fared too well this season. Fall is a "tricky time of year," he said recently.

Kosch, a redshirt sophomore walkon from Columbus, is a meteorology major. His career goal is to be a weatherman, a behind-the-scenes weatherman. "That's where I'll be," Kosch said.

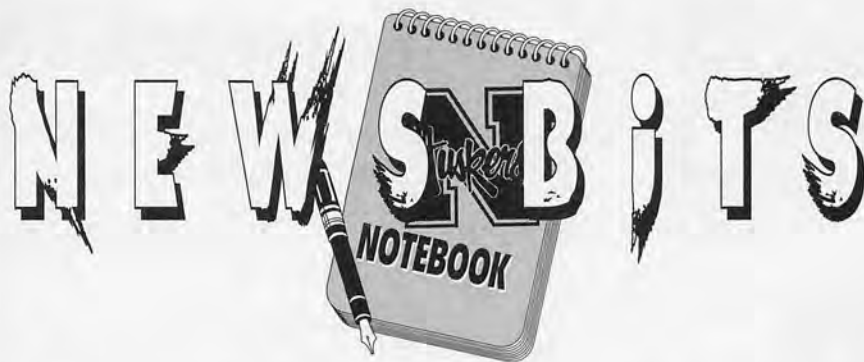
In the immediate future, however, Kosch's goal is to continue as the Cornhuskers' punter. Apparently, the chances of that are considerably better than the accuracy of his pregame weather forecasts. At mid-season, he was averaging just over 40 yards per punt.

Kosch wasn't included in the Big Eight Service Bureau's punting statistics, though, because in order to qualify, he would have had to average at least 3.6 punts per game. No way.

Kosch punted only once in Nebraska's opener against Oklahoma State. It was his second punt attempt in collegiate competition.

Kosch's biggest concern is wind. "I've always worried about the wind," he said.

Meteorology would seem to be a good major for a punter. It is, according to Kosch. "But all I care about is the wind," he said. ■



ALL in the FAMILY

When Kent Pavelka, the radio voice of Nebraska football, says "Makovicka" is in the game at fullback, he has to be more specific this season. He could mean Jeff, the senior starter. Or he could mean Joel, a redshirt freshman and the No. 3 fullback.

Jeff and Joel are brothers, of course. Both walked on after playing eight-man football at East Butler High School in Brainard, where they both played tailback.

Being teammates at the same position is "a benefit for both of us, I think," Jeff said recently. "You pick up little things, playing the same position. I can come to him (Joel) on the sideline, and he'll be more honest with me if I'm doing something wrong. And I'll be more honest with him."

Jeff, who alternated with Cory Schlesinger last season, might have been more of a longshot at Nebraska than Joel. Nebraska initially rejected him, saying he was too small and too slow, Jeff said. He kept what amounted to a letter of rejection he had received after attending the Cornhuskers' Big Red football camp during the summer between his sophomore and junior years in high school as motivation.

His persistence paid off, however. Eventually, he was told he could walk on at Nebraska. "On the day of my high school graduation, coach (Frank) Solich called my dad," he said. "Maybe they decided to let me walk on just so I would quit bugging them."

Whatever the reason, that decision paid off for Nebraska as well as for Jeff. He moved from I-back to fullback two years ago and, well, you know the rest of the story. It has been told often enough.

"I do like five or six stories a year (about that)," Jeff said. "It makes me wonder why it's such a great story. It's like I'm an alien being or something. I wonder what people must think. It's not where you're from. It's where you're at."

That Joel joined him at Nebraska came as no surprise, although the Cornhuskers were interested in him as a running back and Joel "wanted to go someplace to play linebacker," Jeff said. "Joel was really a good linebacker in high school."

Ultimately, the school mattered more than the position. "I knew he had been a Nebraska fan all his life and if he was as competitive as I was, he'd want to try it here," Jeff said. ■

Joel (45) and Jeff (22) Makovicka.



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Buffaloes Passed By, 44-21

The question was whether Tommie Frazier could pass effectively if he were forced to. The answer resonated through the Rockies. Yeeesss.

Or, expressed another way: Nebraska 44, Colorado 21.

"He was pretty much on the money with everything he threw today," Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne said after Frazier passed for a career-high 241 yards and two touchdowns.

Frazier completed 14-of-23 passes without an interception as No. 2-ranked Nebraska improved to 8-0 at the expense of the No. 7 Buffaloes.

"He's a great player who really holds things together," Osborne said. "He's the difference-maker."

By MIKE BABCOCK

During his weekly news conference on Tuesday, Osborne endorsed Frazier as a candidate for the Heisman Trophy, given annually to college football's best player.

"If statistics are the criteria, obviously, Tommie probably isn't going to win it," Osborne said.

"If they look at moving the football and winning games, being a great competitor and being multifaceted, then I think Tommie has a great chance.

"If there are other things that are major factors, he probably doesn't have much chance. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and who knows what people are looking for?"

What the majority of those in a record crowd of 54,063 at Folsom Field were looking for was something less than what Frazier provided. Colorado's defense was prepared to

stop the run, which it did with some success, measured statistically.

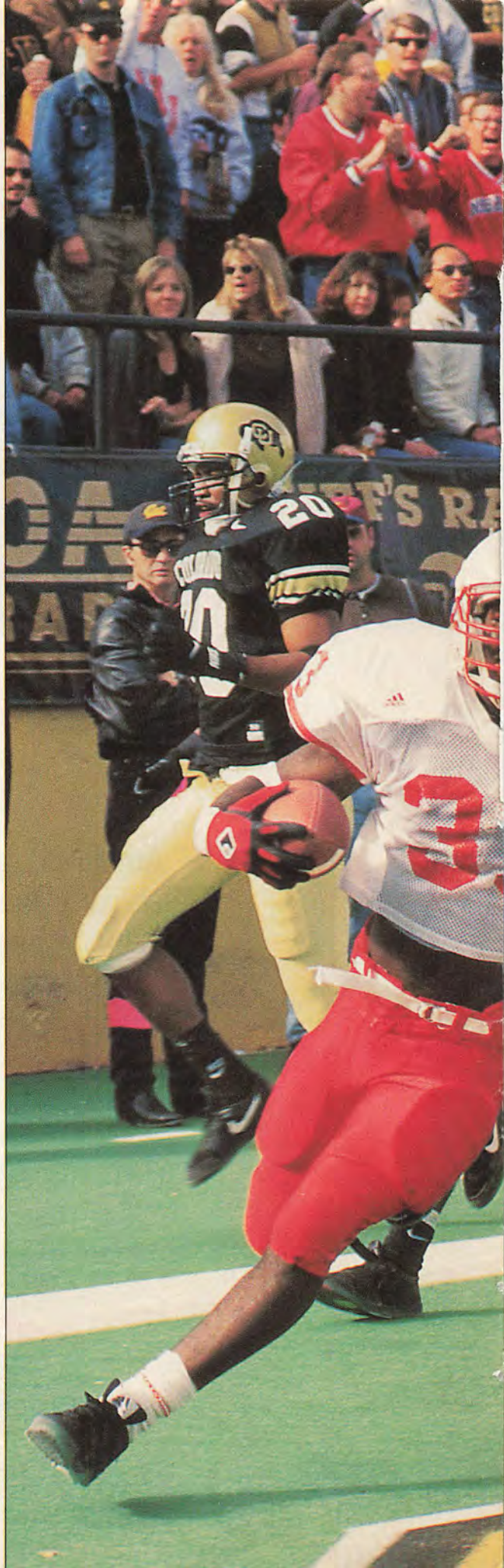
Nebraska went into the game averaging 7.5 yards per rush and 426.9 rushing yards per game to lead the nation. The Cornhuskers rushed for 226 yards against Colorado, averaging a modest 4.2 yards per attempt.

"Nebraska knew our defense is designed to take away the run," said Colorado coach Rick Neuheisel. "They probably said, 'We're going to have to throw a little bit more.'"

Frazier's 23 passes were a season high. He might have thrown more. However, "once we got up 16 points, we weren't going to throw a lot," Osborne said.

Nebraska started as if it might not have to leave the ground. On its first play from scrimmage, freshman I-back Ahman Green took a pitchout from Frazier and

Nebraska punished Colorado for 31 points in the first half, including this 52-yard scoring pass from Tommie Frazier to Clester Johnson (33) in the first quarter.



Colorado game photos by Tim Benko



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ran 57 yards, untouched, for a touchdown. The Cornhuskers lined up in a new set for the play.

"We put an extra blocker out there," Osborne said. "It might have confused them a little. It's something they hadn't seen before. We hoped to outnumber them, and we did."

Less than two minutes into the game, Nebraska led, 7-0. Osborne didn't relax, however. "Scoring early on a play like that usually means 'watch out,'" he said. "So many times I've seen an early score like that turn into disaster. It's like seeing the air go out of a balloon. Then the other team gets better and better."

The 1989 Nebraska-Colorado game was a good example of the danger to which Osborne alluded. The Cornhuskers also scored a touchdown on their first play from scrimmage that day at Folsom Field. Fullback Bryan Carpenter ran 51 yards with a screen pass. But Colorado rallied for a 27-21 victory.

"So I worry about that sometimes," Osborne said.

Even though the Buffaloes

responded to the first of Green's two touchdowns with a seven-play, 85-yard touchdown drive to tie the score at 7, Osborne needn't have worried. Nebraska led 21-7 at the end of the first quarter, and 31-14 at halftime.

Green, who finished with 97 yards on 18 carries, scored his second touchdown from 1 yard out after a Terrell Farley interception and 42-yard return set up the Cornhuskers first-and-10 at the Colorado 13-yard line. Buffalo quarterback John Hessler threw two interceptions. The second, by MIKE linebacker Doug Colman, produced one of Kris Brown's three field goals.

Hessler was hit by outside linebacker Grant Wistrom just as he released the ball, which fluttered into Colman's waiting hands. Hessler was under pressure from the

**Colorado challenged the
Huskers' vaunted running
attack, limiting them to 226
yards and putting the pressure
on Tommie Frazier to beat them
through the air.**



beginning. He was sacked twice, by Wistrom and Jon Hesse, and hurried six times.

"I thought that he was scared of the defensive line," said Farley, who was credited with seven tackles, second on the team to Jamel Williams' eight. "He got rattled, and he couldn't react to our zone coverage.

"I think they expected man-to-man coverage so they could have more big plays than they did. They couldn't beat the zone," Farley said.

Actually, two of Colorado's three touchdowns came on passes, an 18-yarder to Phil Savoy and a 49-yarder to James Kidd. Guard Heath Irwin scored the Buffaloes' other touchdown by recovering a fumble in the end zone to cut the deficit to 21-14 with 9:34 remaining in the first half.

Nebraska had gone ahead on a 52-yard pass play from Frazier to wingback Clester Johnson, who jumped to make the catch over a Colorado defender.

Frazier passed 7 yards to wingback Jon Vedral for another touchdown with 10 seconds remaining in the first half to cap a nine-play, 83-yard drive, which helped along by three Colorado penalties.

The Buffaloes were penalized 12 times for 92 yards. Nebraska wasn't penalized once. "Any time you play Nebraska, you have to obviously play with a great deal of emotion," Neuheisel said.

"We did. But you also have to play mistake-free, and we didn't," he said. "Nebraska is a team that's not insurmountable, but on a day when they go without a penalty, without a turnover, we have to match that. And we weren't able to."

PHILLIPS REINSTATED

Lawrence Phillips returned to practice on the Tuesday before the Colorado game. The junior I-back likely will play in this week's game against Iowa State at Memorial Stadium.

Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne reinstated Phillips after university officials announced sanctions against him. Phillips had been suspended after pleading no contest on misdemeanor charges involving an assault of a former girlfriend on Sept. 10.

Phillips will be allowed to remain at the university, as long as he complies with the sanctions.

"If it doesn't work out, I'll take the heat," Osborne said. "I'll probably take the heat for the way it is now. But that's OK. That's part of the deal. I'm certainly prepared to live with it."

Phillips, who will not start against ISU, was not among the 80 Cornhuskers who traveled to Boulder for the Colorado game. ■



His team's mistakes could be attributed to youth, "kids trying to do good things," Neuheisel said. "Unfortunately in this zeal, we just forgot some old fundamentals.

"We'll learn from it and, hopefully, rebound from it. We definitely gave it everything we had. We played as hard as we could. We just didn't play as smart as we should. We matched them in intensity. We matched them with speed. We were just unable to match them in execution."

Colorado also couldn't match the leadership Frazier provided.

"Tommie is, in all of my years

Colorado's chances of an upset fell quickly in the face of Nebraska's fired up defense.

playing and watching college football, the best quarterback I've seen," said Colorado cornerback T.J. Cunningham. "It was a pleasure playing against him. He's a strong competitor."

Frazier capped his performance by scoring from 2 yards out to finish off a 12-play, 74-yard drive in the closing minutes of the game. Nebraska's only other points in the second half came on two field goals by Brown.

As usual, Frazier drew praise from his teammates. "Tommie Frazier is a phenomenal player," center Aaron Graham said. "In my mind, he's got to be No.1 in a lot of Heisman voters' minds. The thing I like so much about him is the fact

that he's got this competitive fire that pumps you up every time you look at him."

That quality is difficult to quantify, however. Unless, of course, you consider the 8-0 bottom line.

"Excellent sums it up perfectly," said Vedral. "He was always a great player. I think he has a really good chance at the Heisman."

Frazier, who downplays the importance of the Heisman Trophy in favor of emphasizing his commitment to the success of the team, apparently regarded his performance against the Buffaloes as evidence of an overlooked skill.

"This game shows that I'm not just an option quarterback," he said. ■



STATISTICS VS. COLORADO

OCTOBER 28, 1995

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAM	1	2	3	4	Final
NEBRASKA	21	10	3	10	44
COLORADO	7	7	7	0	21

TEAM STATS

	CU	NU
First Downs	20	26
Rushing	6	11
Passing	14	10
Penalty	0	5
Rushing Attempts	24	54
Yards Gained Rushing	113	250
Yards Lost Rushing	7	24
Net yards rushing	106	226
Net yards passing	276	241
Passes attempted	43	23
Passes completed	21	14
Had intercepted	2	0
Total plays	67	77
Total net yards	382	467
Avg. gain per play	5.7	6.1
Fumbles-lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-yards	12-92	0-0
Punts-yards	6-250	2-84
Avg. per punt	41.7	42.0
Possession time	24:12	35:48

DEFENSIVE LEADERS

NEBRASKA	Solo	Asst	TT	Sacks	Int.
Player					
Williams, J.	5	3	8	0	0
Farley, T.	3	4	7	0	1
Williams, T.	3	2	5	0	0
Veland, T.	4	1	5	0	0
Minter, M.	5	0	5	0	0
Colman, D.	2	3	5	0	1
Wistrom, G.	4	0	4	1	0
Hesse, J.	1	3	4	1	0
Booker, M.	0	3	3	0	0
Peter, C.	3	0	3	0	0
Dennis, L.	2	0	2	0	0
Ellis, P.	0	2	2	0	0
Foreman, J.	0	2	2	0	0
Terwilliger, R.	1	1	2	0	0
Peter, J.	1	1	2	0	0
Kelsay, C.	2	0	2	0	0
COLORADO	Solo	Asst	TT	Sacks	Int.
Player					
Leomiti	9	4	13	0	0
Russell	7	7	14	0	0
Black	6	5	11	0	0
Rosga	4	5	9	0	0

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

RUSHING NEBRASKA

Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Green, A.	18	97	5.4	57	2
Frazier, T.	13	40	3.1	11	0
Makovicka, Jeff	8	24	3.0	9	0
Childs, C.	10	44	4.4	15	0
Benning, D.	3	13	4.3	6	0
Schuster, B.	1	1	1.0	1	0
Makovicka, Joel	1	7	7.0	7	0

RECEIVING NEBRASKA

Player	Rec	Yds	APC	Lng	TD
Johnson, C.	3	72	24.0	52	1
Gilman, M.	3	53	17.6	26	0
Green, A.	2	44	22.0	35	0
Vedral, J.	2	34	17.0	27	1
Baul, R.	2	12	6.0	8	0
Holbein, B.	1	16	16.0	16	0
Makovicka, Jeff	1	10	10.0	10	0

COLORADO

Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Troutman, H.	11	72	6.5	16	0
Henry	10	27	2.7	6	0
Hessler	3	7	2.3	13	0
Irwin	0	0	0	0	1

PASSING NEBRASKA

Player	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD
Frazier, T.	23-14-0	241	2

COLORADO

Player	Att-Cmp-Int	Yds	TD
Hessler	43-21-2	276	2

COLORADO

Player	Rec	Yds	APC	Lng	TD
Savoy	8	74	9.3	18	1
Carruth	7	92	13.1	26	0
Troutman	2	29	14.5	21	0
Kidd	1	49	49.0	49	1
Anderson	1	15	15.0	15	0
Lepis	1	9	9.0	9	0
Chiaverini	1	8	8.0	8	0

FIELD GOALS NEBRASKA

Player	Att	Made	Distance
Brown	3	3	25, 36, 37

COLORADO

Player	Att	Made	Distance
Voskeritichian	0	0	

1995 SEASON STATS (8 GAMES)

RUSHING

Name	G	Att.	Yds.	YPG	Tds.
Green, A.	8	106	821	102.6	10
Frazier, T.	8	69	408	51.0	9
Phillips, L.	2	34	359	179.5	7
Benning, D.	6	54	350	58.3	4
Childs, C.	5	40	301	60.2	2
Makovicka, Jeff	8	49	292	36.5	1
Sims, J.	8	25	245	30.6	3
Schuster, B.	8	20	165	20.6	0
Makovicka, Joel	7	15	101	14.4	0
Berringer, B.	5	13	55	11.0	0
Turman, M.	7	13	35	5.0	1

PASSING

Name	G	A-C-I	Pct.	Yds.	Tds.
Frazier, T.	8	108-60-2	.555	1030	13
Berringer, B.	5	43-22-0	.511	210	0
Turman, M.	7	12-4-2	.300	73	1

RECEIVING

Name	G	No.	Yds.	YPC	YPG	Tds.
Johnson, C.	8	15	284	18.9	35.5	2
Gilman, M.	8	15	239	15.9	29.8	1
Baul, R.	7	9	218	24.2	31.1	1
Vedral, J.	8	10	193	19.3	24.1	4
Holbein, B.	7	10	108	10.8	15.4	1
Jackson, S.	6	4	39	9.8	6.5	2
Cheatham, K.	5	4	31	7.8	6.2	0
Washington, R.	4	3	24	8.0	6.0	0
Childs, C.	5	2	19	9.5	3.8	0
Phillips, L.	2	1	7	7.0	3.5	0
Lake, J.	2	1	7	7.0	2.3	0

DEFENSE

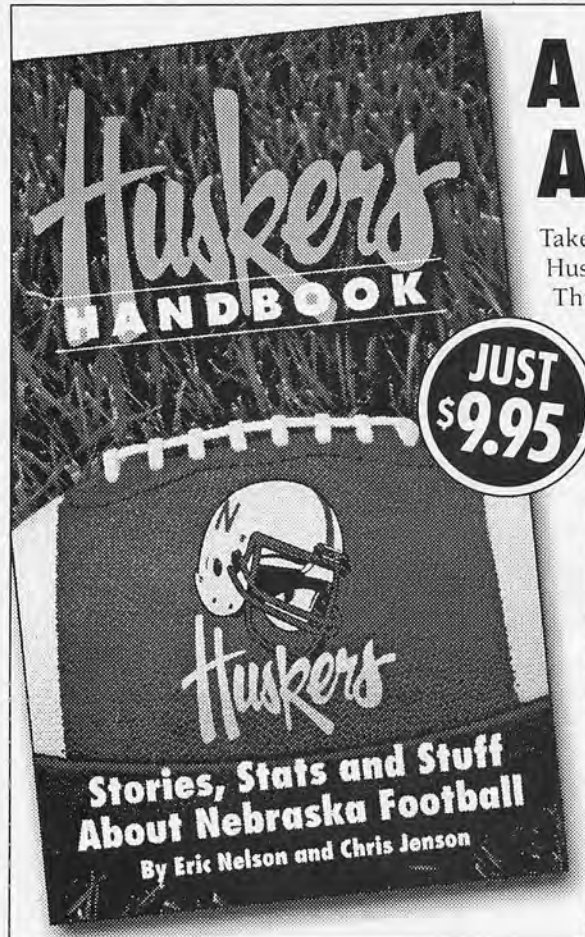
Name	G	UT	AT	TT	Int.	Sacks
Farley, T.	8	22	20	42	3	5
Colman, D.	8	16	18	34	1	2
Minter, M.	8	22	12	34	1	0
Terwilliger, R.	8	18	14	32	0	0
Peter, C.	8	11	21	32	0	1
Hesse, J.	8	14	16	30	0	1
Wistrom, G.	8	16	13	29	0	4
Veland, T.	8	13	11	24	1	0
Williams, J.	8	14	10	24	0	1
Ellis, P.	5	9	13	22	0	2
Booker, M.	8	15	7	22	2	0
Foreman, J.	8	6	15	21	0	0
Williams, T.	8	14	4	18	0	0
Tomich, J.	8	12	5	17	0	6
Kelsay, C.	8	11	5	16	0	2
Peter, J.	8	5	11	16	0	0
Penland, A.	7	5	9	14	0	0
McFarlin, O.	8	8	6	14	0	0
Saltsman, S.	6	5	8	13	0	1
Stokes, E.	8	7	6	13	0	0
Warfield, E.	8	5	6	11	0	0
Rucker, M.	6	3	7	10	0	1
Fullman, M.	8	8	1	9	0	0

TEAM STATISTICS

Total Offensive Yards	4,561	2,385			
Net Rushing Yards	3,214	618			
Passing Yards	1,347	1,767			
Scoring	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	TOT
NU	114	154	84	73	425
Opponents	34	28	31	40	133

1995 NEBRASKA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Record (Conference)	— 8-0 (4-0)
Aug. 31	@ Oklahoma St. W, 64-21
Sept. 9	@ Michigan St. W, 50-10
Sept. 16	Arizona St. W, 77-28
Sept. 23	Pacific W, 49-7
Sept. 30	Washington St. W, 35-21
Oct. 14	Missouri W, 57-0
Oct. 21	Kansas St. W, 49-25
Oct. 28	@ Colorado W, 44-21
Nov. 4	Iowa St.
Nov. 11	@ Kansas
Nov. 25	Oklahoma



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Cyclones Not Ready To Fade Into The Sunset

By Mark Derowitsch

After posting just three wins in its first seven games, it would be understandable if Iowa State came to Lincoln on Saturday with little on the line.

Actually, that's far from the truth.

Sure, the Cyclones have no chance to win the Big Eight Conference championship or represent the league in a postseason bowl game. What Iowa State does have a chance to do is try to help Cyclone running back Troy Davis win the Heisman Trophy.

Davis — a 5-foot-8, 185 pound sophomore from Miami — leads the nation in rushing, averaging 189.1 yards per game. In Iowa State's first six games, he rushed for at least 200 yards three times (including an Iowa State single-game record of 302 against UNLV).

In addition, Davis scored 13 touchdowns and leads the country with 1,566 all-purpose yards.

How good is Davis? First-year Iowa State coach Dan McCarney said the tailback who rushed for only 187 yards a year ago is a legitimate candidate to win the Heisman,

given annually to the best player in college football.

"I can't imagine a football player in the country who's done more for a football team than what Troy's done up to this point," McCarney said.

However, McCarney realizes Davis' chances to win the award are slim. Iowa State doesn't get much national exposure, if any.



Dan McCarney has helped make ISU nearly respectable again.

But Davis has done well against good teams. In a 50-28 loss to Colorado, Davis carried the ball 33 times and gained 203 yards. But that may not be enough to get him the Heisman.

"Realistically, his chances are probably not very good at all," McCarney said. "But I think he's a young man who should get serious, serious national consideration for what he's done for this team."

Davis' stiffest challenge will come from the Huskers. Kickoff for Iowa State's game at Nebraska is set for 1 p.m. at Memorial Stadium.

The Cyclones offensive line will be up against one of the most physical defenses in the conference in

PRESS PICKS



• **Mike Babcock,** *Huskers Illustrated:* Iowa State is so run-oriented. Nebraska has

shown the ability to handle the run. This was evident by the Huskers' defensive performance against Kansas State. To have success, Iowa State must be able to throw against Nebraska, something the Cyclones will be unable to do. My only concern with this game is the potential distraction caused by the return of I-back Lawrence Phillips. The result might be a little light, especially if the Huskers maintain a clear focus.

Nebraska 49, Iowa State 7.

• **Kent Pavelka,** *Nebraska Sports Network:* Dan McCarney has opened some eyes around the conference by fielding a nice offensive football team this fall. And the Cyclones are good enough to score some points on the Huskers. Iowa State's defense is another story. Nebraska will have its way with the ISU defense.

Nebraska 63, Iowa State 14.

• **Doug Looney,** *College football freelance writer:* It's worse that it's a home game for Nebraska, so the Cornhuskers can play more players. If Iowa State has any brains, it will cancel. If it doesn't, it just depends on what Tom Osborne wants to do.

Nebraska 60, Iowa State 10.

• **Jason Howland,** *Iowa State Daily:* Sophomore sensation Troy Davis will run all over the Huskers and show Lawrence Phillips up in the biggest upset in Cyclone history. I'd say Davis will get 260 yards.

Iowa State 35, Nebraska 28.

Nebraska. And Iowa State will be going to battle with a young and inexperienced line.

Left tackle Tim Kohn and left guard Mark Konopka are the only two members of the line who have started games prior to the 1995 season.

Right guard Matt Rahfaldt is a sophomore, center Patrick Augafa is a junior and right tackle Byron Heitz is a senior who lettered just one year.

Still, behind the line the Cyclones are averaging 255 yards on the ground per game and 387 yards of total offense.

Three players have started for Iowa State at quarterback this season. Junior Todd Doxzon (a graduate of Millard North High School in Omaha) has been slowed all season by an ankle injury. But he still leads ISU in passing with 545 yards and two touchdowns and is fourth on the team in rushing.

If Doxzon can't play against

Nebraska, freshman Todd Bandhauer will likely start. He relieved Doxzon in the second quarter against Colorado and had the Cyclones leading 28-27 early in the fourth quarter before the Buffs pulled away.

When the Cyclones go to the air, senior split end Mike Horacek, a graduate of Omaha Benson High, and flanker Ed Williams are the top two targets.

Defensively, the Cyclones have had problems. Opponents are averaging more than 440 yards of offense on Iowa State, including an average of 294 on the ground.

Strong safety Matt Straight has picked off two passes for the Cyclones. He leads the secondary consisting of cornerbacks Kevin Hudson and Dawan Anderson and free safety Kelvin Moore. Straight is the lone senior in the defensive backfield.

Up front, Iowa State is led by tackle Jason Putz and outside linebacker Rudy Ruffolo, who have each recorded two sacks this season.

Outside linebacker Angelo Provenza had four tackles for losses and nose guard Greg Shoon has been in on 43 stops. End Sheldon Napastuk has seen limited action but will likely start against the Huskers.

The inside linebackers at Iowa State are talented. Michael Cooper, from Omaha Westside, leads the team with 67 tackles, and Tim Sanders is next with 66. Cooper has also posted two sacks.

Kicker Jamie Kohl has hit 16 of 20 point-after tries and eight of 12 field goals. Against Colorado, Kohl boot-



Troy Davis has put up Heisman-like numbers, but playing at Iowa State will surely hurt his chances.

ed two field goals, including one from 47 yards.

Punter Marc Harris is averaging better than 41 yards per attempt on more than 30 attempts.

Iowa State also relies on Davis for most of its returns. Davis has returned six kickoffs and is averaging 22.7 yards per attempt.

Despite the hard times, things are looking up in Ames, thanks to Davis and to the Cyclones' first-year coach.

But don't think McCarney is satisfied with how his first season on the job is going.

"We are looking for ways to win," McCarney said. "I do not want to fade into the sunset in the last games. I want the respect this football program badly needs." ■

1995 IOWA STATE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Record (Overall/Conf.) — 3-5 (1-3)

Aug. 31	Ohio	W, 36-21
Sept. 9	@ TCU	L, 10-27
Sept. 16	Iowa	L, 10-27
Sept. 23	UNLV	W, 57-30
Oct. 7	Oklahoma	L, 26-39
Oct. 14	@ Kansas	L, 7-34
Oct. 21	Colorado	L, 28-50
Oct. 28	Oklahoma St.	W, 38-14
Nov. 4	@ Nebraska	
Nov. 11	Kansas St.	
Nov. 18	@ Missouri	

IOWA STATE VS. NEBRASKA TWO-DEEPS

HUSKER OFFENSE

SE 7	Reggie Baul	5-8 170 Sr
5	Brendan Holbein	5-9 190 Jr
LT 75	Chris Dishman	6-3 310 Jr
78	Kory Mikos	6-5 285 Jr
LG 67	Aaron Taylor	6-1 305 So
68	Steve Volin	6-2 290 Sr
C 54	Aaron Graham	6-4 285 Sr
53	Matt Vrzal	6-1 300 Jr
RG 69	Steve Ott	6-4 290 Sr
64	Jon Zatechka	6-2 280 So
RT 70	Eric Anderson	6-4 300 So
77	Adam Treu	6-6 295 Jr
TE 87	Mark Gillman	6-4 240 Sr
90	Tim Carpenter	6-2 240 So
QB 15	Tommie Frazier	6-2 210 Sr
18	Brook Berringer	6-4 220 Sr
FB 22	Jeff Makovicka	5-11 225 Sr
28	Brian Schuster	5-11 225 Jr
IB 30	Ahman Green	6-0 210 Fr
21	Damon Benning	5-11 205 Jr
WB 33	Clester Johnson	5-11 210 Sr
25	Jon Vedral	5-11 200 Jr
PK 35	Kris Brown	5-11 190 Fr

CYCLONE DEFENSE

DT 61	Jason Putz	6-4 258 Sr
98	Kevin Fleeces	6-4 255 Sr
NT 90	Greg Schoon	6-1 263 So
94	Alphonso Carter	6-0 254 Fr
DE 91	Sheldon Napastuk	6-5 263 Jr
92	Oliver Ross	6-6 245 Jr
OLB 34	Angelo Provenza	6-0 207 Sr
9	James Henderson	6-0 203 Jr
ILB 40	Tim Sanders	6-0 211 Jr
41	Clint Thomas	6-3 230 Jr
ILB 38	Michael Cooper	6-1 201 So
54	Andre Lee	6-2 220 Fr
OLB 97	Rudy Ruffolo	6-4 258 So
8	Greg Boyd	6-1 213 Jr
LC 14	Dawan Anderson	5-8 156 Fr
25	Kevin Wilson	6-0 170 Fr
SS 11	Matt Straight	6-0 198 Sr
31	Tracy Williams	6-1 210 So
FS 2	Kelvin Moore	6-2 205 Jr
20	Mike Lincavage	6-1 193 Jr
RC 13	Kevin Hudson	6-0 168 So
23	Jason Brown	5-10 185 Jr
P 16	Marc Harris	5-11 197 Jr

CYCLONE OFFENSE

SE 88	Mike Horacek	6-2 198 Jr
85	Tom Radke	5-11 172 So
LT 77	Tim Kohn	6-5 294 Jr
75	Matt Rahfaldt	6-4 270 So
LG 60	Mark Konopka	6-1 293 Sr
75	Matt Rahfaldt	6-4 270 So
C 65	Patrick Augafa	6-3 330 Jr
67	Paul Skartvedt	6-2 257 Jr
RG 75	Matt Rahfaldt	6-4 270 So
66	Doug Easley	6-3 272 Jr
RT 51	Byron Heitz	6-5 295 Sr
58	Kurt Levetzow	6-6 241 So
TE 87	Dennis DiBiase	6-2 232 Jr
86	Mike Hansen	6-3 225 Fr
QB 7	Todd Doxzon	6-1 185 Jr
17	Todd Bandhauer	6-4 215 Fr
TB 28	Troy Davis	5-8 185 So
6	Graston Norris	5-9 182 Jr
FB 22	Rodney Guggenheim	5-10 217 Jr
29	Jason Bales	6-0 225 So
FL 81	Ed Williams	6-3 193 So
85	Tom Radke	5-11 172 So
PK 45	Jamie Kohl	6-0 175 Fr

HUSKER DEFENSE

OLB 93	Jared Tomich	6-2 250 Jr
58	Luther Hardin	6-2 245 Sr
DT 55	Christian Peter	6-3 300 Sr
97	Jeff Ogard	6-6 310 Jr
DT 95	Jason Peter	6-4 275 So
96	Jason Jenkins	6-5 280 Sr
OLB 98	Grant Wistrom	6-5 240 So
57	Chad Kelsay	6-3 230 Fr
SLB 56	Jay Foreman	6-1 220 Fr
28#	Jamel Williams	6-2 200 Jr
MLB 41	Phil Ellis	6-2 225 Sr
46	Doug Colman	6-3 245 Sr
WLB 43	Terrell Farley	6-0 200 Jr
91	Ryan Terwilliger	6-5 225 Jr
LC 20	Michael Booker	6-2 190 Jr
12	Mike Fullman	5-7 160 Jr
ROV 10	Mike Minter	5-10 190 Jr
4	Octavious McFarlin	5-11 190 So
FS 9	Tony Veland	6-2 205 Sr
16	Eric Stokes	5-11 180 Jr
RC 8	Tyrone Williams	6-0 185 Sr
2	Leslie Dennis	5-8 165 So
P 19	Jesse Kosch	6-0 180 So

Depth charts were compiled Oct. 29, 1995. # = duplicate number * = injured, but probable for game





Silent Killer

Quiet off the field, Ken Clark made plenty of noise on it, battling injuries to become the school's No. 3 all-time rusher

Editor's Note — This is the ninth of an 11-part series featuring the best Nebraska running backs of the modern era. Next week we'll profile Derek Brown.

Ken Clark was elusive, off the football field as well as on it. Ask any reporter who covered the Nebraska beat during the late 1980s. Clark was as adroit at avoiding the news media as he was at eluding would-be tacklers. A case in point was the 1988 Oklahoma State game.

Coach Pat Jones' Cowboys, who had not yet fallen on hard times as a result of NCAA sanctions, came to Lincoln with a 4-0 record and a No. 10 national ranking in the Associated Press poll. Despite faltering against UCLA in Pasadena a month earlier, Nebraska was ranked No. 7.

The game was a good match of offensive-minded teams. The Cornhuskers had scored 63 points in two of their five victories. Oklahoma State had scored a combined 201 points in its four victories.

A primary reason for the Cowboys' offensive success was junior tailback Barry Sanders, who was on his way to NCAA single-season records for rushing yards (2,628) and touchdowns (39). Sanders also would win the Heisman Trophy in 1988, his last season as a collegian.

Sanders rushed for 189 yards and four touchdowns that afternoon at Memorial Stadium as Oklahoma State scored 42 points, the most ever against a Tom Osborne-coached team at that time. Only one opponent has scored more since. Georgia Tech put up 45 in the 1991 Florida Citrus Bowl. But some things are best left forgotten.

The 42 points weren't enough for Oklahoma State to win, however. Sanders didn't score his first touchdown until midway through the second quarter. By then, Nebraska had built a 42-0 lead, and Clark had scored three touchdowns. The final score was 63-42.

Clark won the statistical battle with Sanders. He ran 73 yards for a touchdown on the Cornhuskers' first play from scrimmage, powering his way through three defenders and spinning away from another. He didn't

top 10 Running Backs In The Modern Era

Bobby Reynolds	1950-52
Harry Wilson	1964-66
Jeff Kinney	1969-71
I.M. Hipp	1977-79
Jarvis Redwine	1979-80
Mike Rozier	1981-83
Keith Jones	1984-87
Ken Clark	1987-89
Derek Brown	1990-92
Calvin Jones	1991-93

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stop running until he gained a near-record 256 yards. Mike Rozier held Nebraska's single-season rushing record in 1988: 285 yards.

Clark's performance was even more remarkable because he had twisted an ankle during the first half. Until that game, there had been some doubt about his ability to play through minor injuries. Not so afterward. Clark proved himself that day. Then he slipped away, ignoring myriad interview requests.

Nebraska's post-game policy has been to bring players to the South Stadium varsity lounge for interviews, rather than opening up the locker room, as was once the procedure. Clark simply didn't go up to the lounge.

The next week, despite watching most of the second half from the sideline, Clark rushed for 225 yards and a touchdown in a 48-3 victory at Kansas State. Again, he escaped reporters, boarding the team bus before anyone could get to him.

When reporters finally cornered Clark, after practice the week after the Kansas State game, he feigned surprise. He hadn't realized anyone wanted to interview him, he said. Besides, "there just isn't much I have to say."

Clark did what he could to avoid the spotlight, mostly because that was his nature. He had arrived at Nebraska in relative anonymity — as anonymous as a Cornhusker running back recruit can be, anyway. His freshman class included such high-profile recruits as Steve Taylor and Broderick Thomas.

Clark spent his first year alternating at I-back on an undefeated and untied freshman-junior varsity team. He finished second to Tyreese Knox in rushing with 338 yards on 58 carries. Knox averaged nearly 9 yards per carry. Clark averaged 5.8.

Clark was Nebraska's first scholarship recruit from Omaha Bryan High School. Even though he was a three-season starter there, he never reached 1,000 yards rushing in any of those years. He was on pace to exceed 1,000 as a senior but suffered a leg injury and missed the final four

games. He finished with 750 yards in about four and a half games.

Nebraska regarded him as an I-back, possibly a wingback. After the success of his junior season, there were reports that he might have become a defensive back. Such reports, though interesting, were unfounded. Clark was recruited to play offense. And that's where he wanted to be.

Clark sat out the 1986 season as a redshirt, then played as a third-year sophomore. He was a backup to senior Keith Jones, carrying 64 times for 344 yards and five touchdowns. He also developed a reputation for missing meetings. His attitude was poor, by his own admission. And he considered leaving.

However, for some reason, which even he couldn't identify, he stayed. And during the summer between his sophomore and junior years, Clark committed himself to football. "I made it my No. 1 priority," he said.

By then, no one questioned his ability. Cornhusker defensive coordinator Charlie McBride compared him to Rozier after a scrimmage, a comparison that Frank Solich, his position coach, also made later. The only concern was Clark's attitude.

Clark began his junior season inauspiciously. He gained only 28 yards on 11 carries during the first half of a 23-14 victory in the Kickoff Classic against Texas A&M. The second half was better: 59 yards on nine carries. But it was a poor indication of what he would do before the season ended.

Clark didn't rush for 100 or more yards until the fourth game after being limited to 46 yards on 12 carries in the shocking 41-28 loss to UCLA at the Rose Bowl in Game No. 3. He ran for 122 yards on 22 carries in a 47-16 victory over Arizona State, then dropped back below 100 yards (79) in a 48-6 win over Nevada-Las Vegas. He carried only 14 times. Going into the Oklahoma State game, Clark's numbers were solid but certainly not extraordinary.

He finished his junior season strong, with three consecutive 100-yard games. He gained 167 yards on 24 carries in a 7-3 victory at



Clark was billed as a Heisman Trophy candidate, but injuries prevented a serious run.

Clark became the second Nebraska player to rush for 3,000 or more career yards, finishing with 3,037.

Oklahoma to wrap up the regular season. The performance was particularly gratifying given the fact that Sooners coach Barry Switzer had described Clark as a "hammer back." If Nebraska had any one of his halfbacks, Switzer said, the Cornhuskers would be better offensively.

Despite finishing second in the Big Eight and fifth in the nation in rushing with 1,497 yards, Clark was first-team All-Big Eight only according to The Associated Press. The United Press International and conference coaches' first teams replaced him with Colorado's Eric Bieniemy.

Clark was regarded as a Heisman Trophy candidate going into his senior season. The field was wide open after Sanders picked the National Football League over his final season of eligibility at Oklahoma State.

The cover of Nebraska's 1989 football media guide featured a picture of Clark and identified him as a "Heisman Trophy Candidate." But a series of injuries, including a swollen



toe, a wrenched knee and a sprained thumb, kept him from making a serious run at the award. He rushed for 1,196 yards and 12 touchdowns in 10 games.

Clark became only the second Cornhusker to rush for 3,000 or more yards in his career. Rozier was the first. Clark now ranks third on

Nebraska's all-time rushing list with 3,037 yards, behind Rozier's 4,780 and Calvin Jones' 3,151.

Clark's 1,497 rushing yards as a junior are the fourth-best single-season total in modern Nebraska history. What more could he have said about himself that his statistics didn't? ■

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THE

LOSS

Nebraska has never forgotten a **19-10** defeat in 1992, which proved to be Iowa State's season

Nov. 14, 1992.

Among Nebraska football fans, it is a day that will live in infamy.

For Iowa State fans, it is a day to be celebrated.

The 1995 Cyclone football media guide devotes two full pages to Nov. 14, 1992, in its "Tradition Section." Iowa State's four bowl games get only one page each in the section. The final page of the guide also includes three photographs from the game played that afternoon.

Without a doubt, it was special. Iowa State defeated Nebraska, 19-10. "Everybody was just shocked," Aaron Graham said recently, recalling the experience.

Graham, the Cornhuskers' senior center and co-captain, was a redshirt freshman in 1992. He made the trip to Ames as a deep-snapper. "I don't even remember how I felt, just disappointed, I guess. We weren't too happy at the time," he said.

His recollection of the game has faded with the passing of time. Even so, "it's still in the back of my mind," Graham said. "We learned our lesson about not taking anyone lightly."

Nebraska went into the game ranked No. 7 in the nation by The Associated Press. The Cornhuskers had recovered from a 29-14 loss at Washington in the third game of the season and were on their way to winning the Big Eight championship.

They were coming off back-to-back victories over Colorado and Kansas. The combined score of those games, both played in Lincoln, was 101-14.

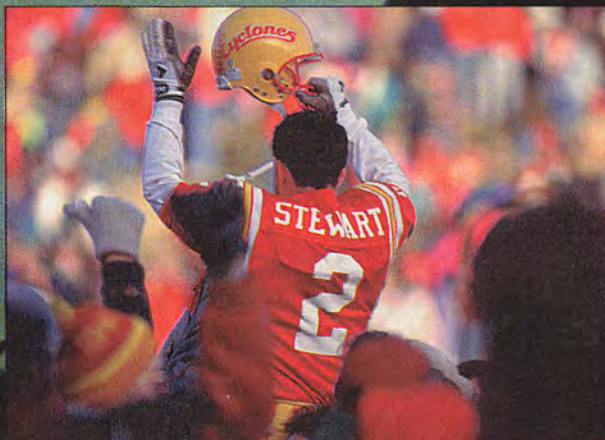
Iowa State was 3-6, its only conference victory coming at the expense of hapless Missouri two weeks earlier. Among the Cyclones' losses was a 27-10 defeat to Northern Illinois.

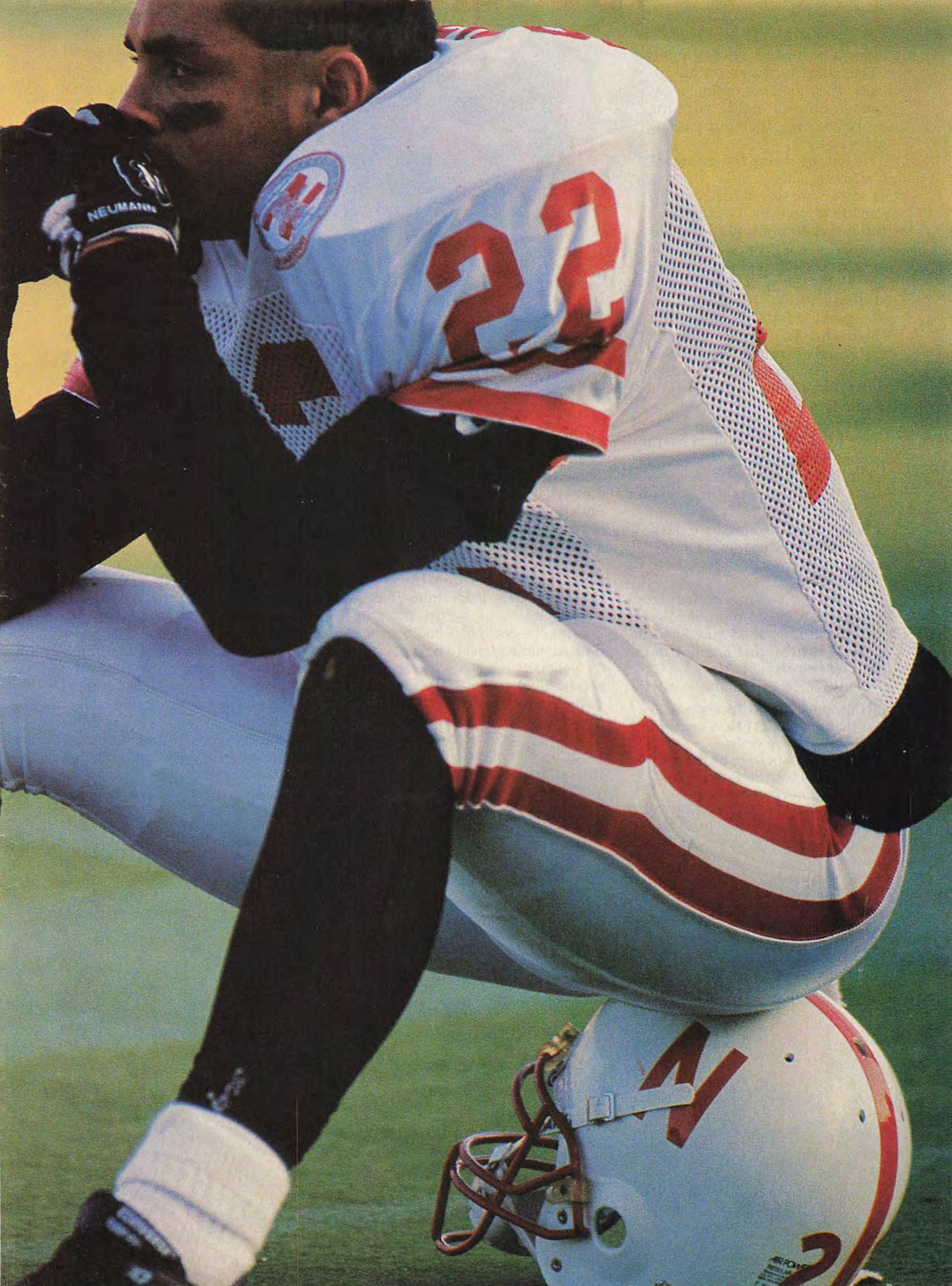
The afternoon was normal for Ames in mid-November. The temperature at game time was 30 degrees, with a 5-to-10-mph wind shifting out of the west and northwest. The sky was clear.

Nebraska was a heavy favorite, which was no surprise considering the Cornhuskers had won 14 games in a row in the series. The smallest margin of victory during that streak was 23 points.

Nebraska's travel roster included a dozen players who are now in the National Football League, including Will Shields, Trev Alberts, Tyrone Hughes, Derek Brown, Calvin Jones, Zach Wiegert and John Parrella.

Tommie Frazier was a freshman and the Cornhuskers' starting quarterback. Three weeks before, he had started for the first time, directing a 34-24 victory at Missouri. The Iowa State media guide high-





lights a post-game Frazier quote: "They shut us down on all circuits. They took our option away, they took our inside running away and they took our passing game away."

"Nothing seemed to go right," Graham recalled.

Iowa State scored first, on a 37-yard field goal by Ty Stewart, a little over five minutes into the game. The Cyclones took the opening kickoff and put together an 11-play, 60-yard drive, which stalled after reaching the Nebraska 15-yard line. On a third-and-5 from there, Cornhusker outside linebacker Travis Hill forced a fumble, which Iowa State recovered for a 5-yard loss.

Nebraska countered with a 33-yard field goal by Byron Bennett with 5:17 remaining in the first quarter, following a nine-play, 56-yard drive. The score was tied at 3 after one quarter.

Iowa State regained the lead 37 seconds into the second quarter with a second Stewart field goal, from 32 yards.

Stewart, a sophomore from Omaha, kicked two more field goals before halftime, of 45 and 30 yards. A 51-yard field goal attempt in the third was blocked by Alberts.

Stewart, from Omaha Westside

ISU limited Calvin Jones and Derek Brown (21) to a combined 92 yards in the only regular-season loss of then-true freshman Tommie Frazier's career brilliant career.



William Lauer

High School, was one of several Nebraskans on the Iowa State roster. That connection seemed to inspire Stewart. "Kids (from Nebraska) who ended up at Iowa State wanted to show people they could play, too," Graham said. "I suppose that had something to do with it (the upset)."

Stewart had been unable to practice field goals at Cyclone Stadium during the week before the game because the goal posts had been vandalized and had yet to be replaced.

Nebraska responded to Stewart's second field goal with its best series of the afternoon, driving 90 yards on seven plays for a touchdown.

Frazier accounted for 67 of the yards on two plays, a 52-yard option run on first-and-20 from his own 10-yard line and a 15-yard pass to full-

back Lance Lewis for the touchdown. Bennett added the extra-point kick, and with 11:49 remaining in the first half, it appeared the Cornhuskers were on their way to a 15th consecutive victory over Iowa State.

As it turned out, however, the touchdown pass completed Nebraska's scoring for the afternoon. By halftime, the Cyclones had all the points they would need to win. The score was 12-10.

Iowa State added a fourth-quarter touchdown and extra-point for good measure. On a first down from his own 20, following a 61-yard punt by Mike Stigge, Cyclone quarterback Marvin Seiler broke loose on an option and ran 78 yards before being caught by Nebraska defensive back Kenny Wilhite. On the next play, fullback Chris Ulrich scored from 2 yards out. Stewart's extra-point made the score 19-10 with nearly 11 minutes still to be played.

Nebraska would manage only two first downs on two series. The upset was complete.

Seiler was an unlikely candidate for stardom in the game. He was a fifth-year senior who had never started before that afternoon. He entered the game with 51 career rushing yards. He carried 24 times for 144 yards against the Cornhuskers, more than half of them coming on the big run in the second half.

Iowa State coach Jim Walden, a former Nebraska assistant, relied on an option running attack to keep the ball away from the Cornhuskers'



William Lauer

explosive offense. They had only 51 offensive snaps.

The Cyclones threw the ball only four times, all shovel passes. Three were complete. They ran the ball 70 times, nearly twice as many as Nebraska, for a net of 399 rushing yards. Ulrich gained 105 yards on 17 carries.

Iowa State's defense limited Jones and Brown to a combined 92 yards on 23 carries, much to the delight of a partisan crowd of 42,008. The game was played quickly, lasting only two and a half hours.

Nebraska recovered from the loss, finishing the regular season with a 33-9 victory over Oklahoma at Norman and a 38-24 win over Kansas State in Tokyo, Japan, to win the Big Eight Conference title. They lost for a third time, 27-14 to Florida State in the 1993 Orange Bowl.

Iowa State couldn't sustain the emotion of the upset and lost at Colorado 33-10 to finish 4-7. The game remains the only one during Osborne's 23 seasons as head coach that Nebraska has lost against an opponent finishing the season with a losing record.

Any loss is disappointing, of course. But Nebraska has suffered defeat so rarely under Osborne that each becomes distinctive, and hence memorable.

The Iowa State loss was unique simply because the Cyclones finished below .500. It was also unique because it involved a former Cornhusker coach, Walden. In 1977, Nebraska lost to a Washington State team coached by Warren Powers, a former Nebraska assistant and player. The score of that game was 19-10.

Both losses have become infamous. But then, what Cornhusker loss hasn't?

As Osborne regularly points out, it is difficult for a team to play at optimum efficiency every week of the season. That's what makes Nebraska's consistency so remarkable.

"Every year, I could look back and say one team has really prepared their hardest for us," said Graham. "As a freshman, it was Iowa State. As a sophomore, it was Kansas. And as a junior, it was Iowa State again."

Last season, Walden's last as head coach, the Cyclones also played Nebraska tough before losing, 28-12. "Iowa State hung with us. They played hard," Graham said.

But there was no miracle to be worked in Ames that afternoon. ■

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Back To Basics

Nebraska has a list of aggressive, hard-hitting high school linebackers who also have the Cornhuskers on their lists

By JAMES HALE

The Nebraska defense is putting a lot of pressure on opponents. And the top prep linebackers in the country are starting to take notice.

In the Husker defense of the '90s, aggressiveness is key to success.

Nebraska linebackers play like overgrown defensive backs, with great quickness and the ability to cover backs or tight ends.

The play of the Husker linebackers have allowed Nebraska to play with any style of offense in the country.

George Guidry (6-foot-3, 225 pounds, 4.5 40-yard dash) of Lake Charles (La.) Marion seems to have a perfect blend of size, power and speed that any team would covet.

He's also athletic enough to fit in as a Cornhusker linebacker. As a running back Guidry rushed for 199 yards in just 14 carries in his last outing. He is averaging 7 yards per carry. In back-to-back games, Guidry had kickoff returns for scores of 83 and 75 yards.

He's not a bad defender, either, averaging 18 tackles, two blocked

passes and seven sacks per game.

"I just want to play. I never want to leave the field," Guidry said. "I like defense best, and most college recruiters want me at linebacker or defensive end, but really I just want to play."

Nebraska is very much in the running for Guidry's talents.

"I like Nebraska a lot and would love to play there," Guidry said. "I like how they run their defense because it's so aggressive and always seems to be on the attack."

Their outside linebackers rush the quarterback a lot, which is something I want to do. I also want to win a championship, and at Nebraska I would have a great chance to do that."

Eddrick Claiborne (6-2, 231, 4.8) of Baton Rouge South is another linebacker out of Louisiana drawing national attention. Claiborne's top three are Notre Dame, Florida State and Nebraska.



Miami native Nathaniel Webster will choose between Miami and the Cornhuskers.

IN THE MIDDLE

Many high school linebackers think they have a future in the middle of the Nebraska defense. The following players are considering the Cornhuskers.

Player	Ht.	Wt.	40	High School	Schools Under Consideration
Eddrick Claiborne	6-2	231	4.8	Baton Rouge (La.) South	ND, FSU, NU, LSU
Waymon Ervin	6-1	200	4.6	Dallas Bishop Dunne	WF, RICE, TEX, PUR, NEB, IOWA
Jeff Ferrer	6-3	230	4.5	Castleberry (Fla.) Lake Howell	TEN, ND, NU, UGA, OU
Robert Franklin	6-2	230	4.6	St. Louis Mellville	NU
Joey Goodspeed	6-1	225	4.6	Oswego (Ill.)	ND, ILL, WISC, NW, IOWA, NU
Donald Green	6-1	225	4.8	Opelousas (La.)	NU, ND, FSU, ARK, LSU
George Guidry	6-3	225	4.5	Lake Charles (La.) Marion	NEB
Kevin Malone	6-3	236	4.6	Oxford (Ala.)	UGA, ALA, AUB, NU
Fred Rogers	6-3	234	4.6	Dallas Adamson	NU, A&M, MICH, ND, FSU, MIA
Shamsud-Din Shaheed	6-3	235	4.8	Los Angeles Verbum Dei	STAN, NU, ARZ, COL
Chris Thierry	6-2	220	4.6	Baytown (Texas) Lee	A&M, OU, TEX, OSU, NU
Nathaniel Webster	6-1	215	4.5	Miami Northwestern	MIA, ILL, PIT, FSU, NU
Anselmo Zamaro	6-2	230	4.6	Fontana (Calif.)	USC, NU

LSU is working hard to keep him in-state.

The Huskers are still working to get into the chase for **Kevin Malone** (6-3, 236, 4.6) of Oxford, Ala. Malone, rated as one of the top 30 players in the South, plays on the outside and already has nine sacks through six games.

Malone's three top choices are Georgia, Alabama and Auburn. Nebraska is in the next group trying to get Malone.

Nathaniel Webster (6-1, 215, 4.5) of Miami Northwestern is a preseason All-American whom the entire college football world covets. Now in his fourth year as a starter, Webster made 135 solo tackles and 13 sacks last season. Webster made the quarterfinals in the state wrestling tournament.

Webster comes from the same school that produced New York Jet Marvin Jones (also a Florida State All-American) and the comparisons are genuine.

However, Webster has always followed Miami. Illinois, Pittsburgh, Florida State and Nebraska are working to get him away from the Hurricanes.

"Nebraska has a great program, and they always seem to have success," Webster said.

"I really haven't had a chance to talk with the Nebraska coaches at any length yet so I don't have an insight to their program," he said. "I guess the fact that I know so much about the Miami program gives them the edge right now."

Joey Goodspeed (6-1, 225, 4.6) of Oswego, Ill., is another preseason All-American who is talking about Nebraska. Actually, Goodspeed is still talking about a number of schools. He posted 195 tackles, six sacks, forced four fumbles and caught 17 tackles for losses as a junior.

Goodspeed doesn't want to rule out any schools at the moment, but he does have a top six list: Notre Dame, Illinois, Wisconsin, Northwestern, Iowa and Nebraska.

"I am very interested in Nebraska, but I really wonder where they want me to play," Goodspeed said. "I really have had a real good opportunity to sit down and talk in depth with them yet."

In Big 12 country, **Robert Franklin** (6-2, 230, 4.6) of St. Louis Mellville is causing quite a stir. He's a one man wrecking crew, averaging 15 tackles a game while doubling as his team's starting fullback. Franklin

said he's interested in Nebraska if the Huskers show the same interest in him.

"I really like Nebraska, and I will set a visit with them if they offer," Franklin said. "They have such a great program with no weakness to speak of."

In Florida, **Jeff Ferrer** (6-3, 230, 4.5) of Castleberry (Fla.) Lake Howell is a top 30 state talent.

He already has official visits set with Tennessee and Notre Dame and Nebraska. Georgia, Oklahoma, Kansas State, Clemson, Louisville, Florida and Penn State are fighting for remaining two.

"Nebraska is an incredible team with a great tradition," Ferrer said. "Their assistant coaches are nice and it's always going to be a school that I will consider."

Donald Green (6-1, 225, 4.75) of Opelousas, La., is drawing attention from the Nebraska recruiters. Nebraska is currently ahead of Notre Dame, Florida State, Arkansas, LSU and Florida.

In Texas, **Chris Thierry** (6-2, 220, 4.6) of Baytown Lee, is the state's top inside linebacker prospect. A preseason All-American, Thierry is leaning

toward staying in the area at Texas A&M, Texas, Oklahoma or Oklahoma State. The Huskers aren't quite as close, but they're still in the hunt.

Waymon Ervin (6-1, 200, 4.6) of Dallas Bishop Dunne is a top 100 Texas talent. Ervin lists his top six as Wake Forest, Rice, Texas, Purdue, Nebraska and Iowa.

Many think **Fred Rogers** (6-3, 235, 4.65) of Dallas Adamson is the best linebacker in Texas. Rogers said Nebraska and Texas A&M are his top two choices, with Michigan, Notre Dame, Florida State and Miami.

The Huskers would love to get in the recruiting chase for **Anselmo Zamaro** (6-2, 230, 4.6) of Fontana, Calif. However, he appears headed to USC. If the Trojans fail, then the Huskers could be contenders.

Shamsud-Din Shaheed (6-3, 235, 4.8) of Los Angeles Verbum Dei is a top 100 talent. He has narrowed his choices to Stanford, Nebraska, Arizona and Colorado.

Nebraska has plenty to chose from in this crop. It is safe to say the Cornhuskers will get a top-notch player from this group. ■

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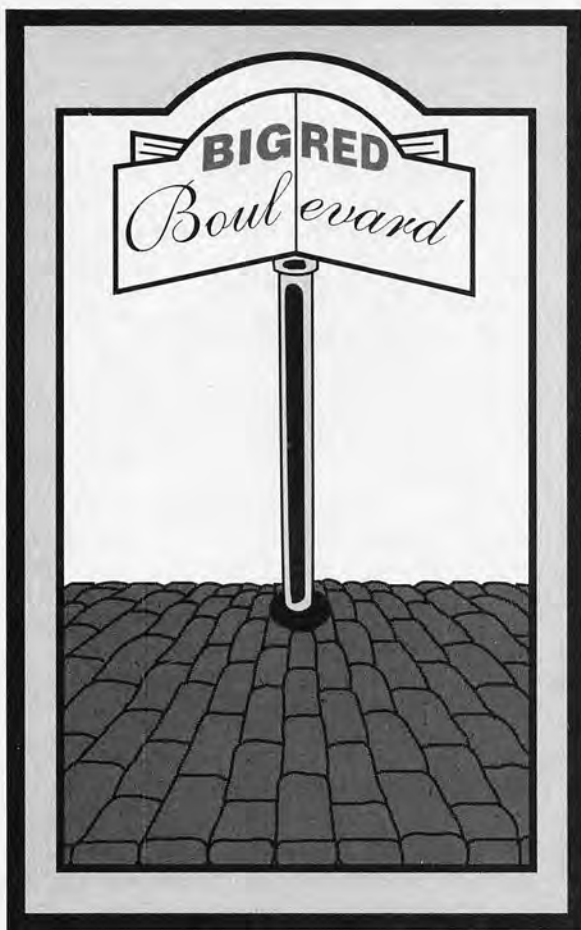


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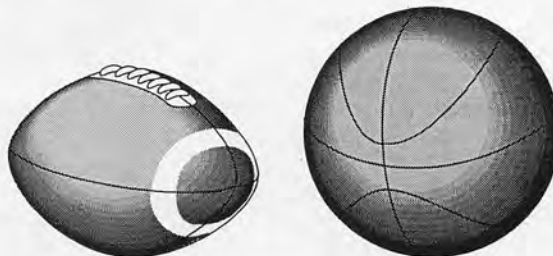
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And The Crying Begins

As Nebraska inches closer to playing for a national title, the poll debate heats up — and Ohio State's yelling loudest

By **MIKE BABCOCK**

A headline in the "Inside College Football" section of the Oct. 23 issue of *Sports Illustrated* says, "The Real No. 1 Team." It does not refer to Nebraska or Florida State, however, but rather to Ohio State.

Get out the crying towels. The Big Ten Conference is at it again. The Buckeyes are ranked No. 4 in the polls that matter going into Saturday's game (Oct. 28), those of The Associated Press and *USA Today/CNN*. And the way Nebraska played in its 44-21 victory over Colorado, well, the chances of reaching the top aren't looking too good right now.

The Cornhuskers aren't No. 1, either, of course. But they were a solid No. 2 behind Florida State. And if the Seminoles were to falter, say against Florida, Nebraska is bound to move up. Florida would be No. 2, and Ohio State would be no higher than No. 3.

And if Nebraska were to play the winner of the Florida State-Florida game in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl the night of Jan. 2, the Buckeyes' chances at being voted national champions would be slim, regardless of which Pacific 10 paper tiger they destroyed in the Doze Bowl. Excuse me, Rose Bowl.

That's all speculation, of course. College football's regular season still has a month to go. But Nebraska took a significant step in Boulder toward earning an opportunity to play for another national championship.

Athletically, Colorado "is probably the best team we've played," coach Tom Osborne said after Nebraska dispatched the No. 7 Buffaloes before a record crowd of 54,063 at Folsom Field.

Colorado was better than Kansas State, which was ranked No. 7 the week before it lost to the Cornhuskers, 49-25. Colorado has "a little more talent" and "a little more speed," than the Wildcats, Osborne said.

After the loss to Nebraska, Kansas State was dismissed by some as having been overrated. If so, it would be difficult to explain the Wildcats' 41-7 victory over No. 6-ranked Kansas at Manhattan last Saturday.

Even though Colorado went into

Tim Benko



Nebraska took a significant step in Boulder toward earning an opportunity to play for the title in the Fiesta Bowl.

the Nebraska game with a blemish on its record (a 40-24 loss to Kansas), the Buffaloes figured to be the toughest of Nebraska's opponents. The point spread was only seven or eight, which is pretty close for a Cornhuskers game.

Nebraska showed its offensive



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diversity by passing for 241 yards in its eighth consecutive victory this season, and its 21st since losing to Florida State in the 1994 Orange Bowl. The Cornhuskers didn't turn over the ball for the second week in a row. And they didn't draw a penalty.

Nebraska's performance was remarkably efficient, against a Buffalo team motivated by the belief that a victory would boost it back into the national championship race. Such a belief was justified by Colorado's own recent history. In 1990, the Buffaloes earned The Associated Press version of the national championship after being ranked 14th in mid-October.

Under the current system of determining national champions by the polls, if a team is to remain a contender after losing, the loss must occur early in the season. That's why Nebraska would have been effectively eliminated from the national title chase had it lost to Colorado.

Even if it wins its four remaining games, only one of which (at Michigan) offers much of a challenge, Ohio State might be denied that chance, as Penn State was last season. That's because the Big Ten and Pac-10 won't participate in the Bowl Alliance.

It's also the reason an influential news medium such as *Sports Illustrated* can claim the Buckeyes are the "real No. 1 team" without running the risk of being proven wrong.

Sports Illustrated's support of Ohio State is partly based on the fact that the Buckeyes have beaten five pre-season Top 25 opponents. However, the magazine also supports Buckeye coach John Cooper's contention that the rankings shouldn't begin until after some games have been played.

So which is it? Has Ohio State been shortchanged for not being ranked higher in the preseason polls? If so, then why are five victories against teams with Top 25 rankings in those preseason polls so meaningful now? The Buckeyes can't have it both ways.

Friday night, the Chicago Bulls played the Los Angeles Clippers in an NBA exhibition game in Lincoln. Michael Jordan was asked his opinion of the Nebraska-Colorado game.

"I don't really follow much college football," Jordan said. "Nebraska's No. 1, right? Or No. 2?"

The Cornhuskers can consider that a glowing endorsement from the great one. Either ranking will do for now. ■

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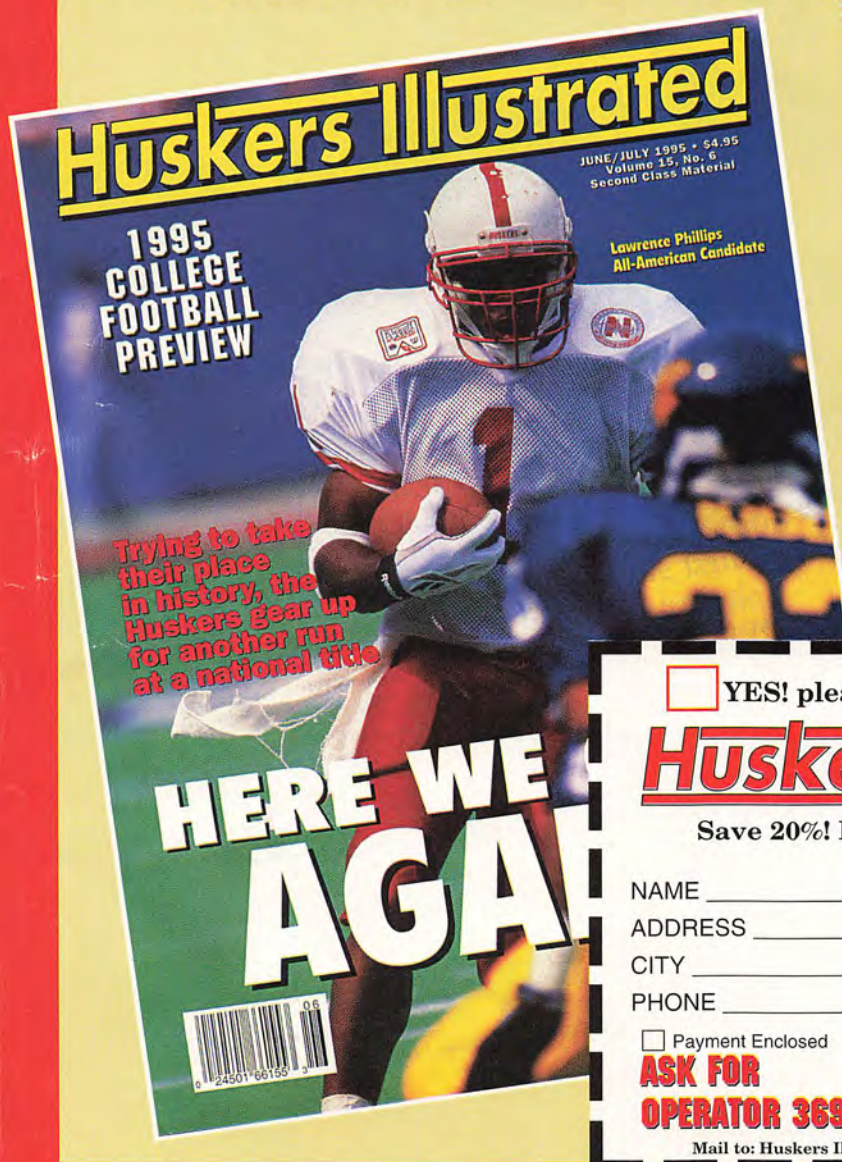
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